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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/714,182	11/14/2003	John P. Christian	42P17670	9382

8791 7590 02/26/2007
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EXAMINER

YENKE, BRIAN P

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2622

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	02/26/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/714,182

Applicant(s)

CHRISTIAN, JOHN P.

Examiner

BRIAN P. YENKE

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 15 Apr 05.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The information disclosure statement filed 15 Apr 2005 fails to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2), which requires a legible copy of each cited foreign patent document; each non-patent literature publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed. It has been placed in the application file, but the information referred to therein has not been considered. As noted on the attached form 1449—the PCT International Preliminary Examination Report, PCT/US02/30954 was missing, thus not considered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tajima et al., JP-6-169440 in view of Milne et al., US 2002/0180890.

In considering claims 1, 15 and 24,

Tajima discloses a modular TV receiver which includes detachable modules/cards, which may be replaced including (Fig 1) a communication satellite tuner, a broadcasting satellite tuner, a MUSE-NTSC converter a teletext adaptor etc...

However, Tajima does not explicitly recite the conventional components which transmit/receive/process the data within the modular receiver, i.e. buses.

Although the use of buses is well known in the art to process data between components in a system, the examiner nonetheless evidences such by incorporating Milne, which disclose a modular DTV which includes the use of buses 51 and a USB connection (which the applicant's also disclose).

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Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to utilize a connection between the components/cards/modules of Tajima by using conventional hardware/software such as the use of a bus to connect/interact the modules in order to receive/process and ultimately display the user desired data.

In considering claim 2,

As stated above with respect to claim 1, Tajima discloses the reception of communication satellite or broadcast satellite signals, wherein the signal are in the RF spectrum, thereby being received by RF bus.

In considering claims 3, 12, 13, 16 and 25,

Tajima discloses the tuning of signals from a communication or broadcast satellite which must be demodulated (i.e. converted to baseband) for display.

In considering claims 4, 11, 17, 19 and 26,

The combination of Tajima/Milne discloses the transfer of data/command/control/power within the modules by the use of a bus/USB connection.

In considering claims 5 and 14, 18

Neither Tajima/Milne disclose the conventional recitation of a printed circuit board as claimed, which are formed on a printed circuit board substrate which is standard chip/circuit board design, thus the examiner takes "OFFICIAL NOTICE" regarding as such, for the reasons mentioned.

In considering claim 6,

Neither Tajima/Milne disclose the conventional fingers at the end of a cartridge, however the use of such based upon the type of card/module used is notoriously well known in the art, and since applicants own specification recites the common knowledge/use of such is not patentable.

In considering claim 7,

Milne discloses the conventional features of a tuner/receiver (i.e. decoder).

In considering claim 8,

Both Tajima and Milne each disclose the concept of a unit/housing in their modular design.

In considering claims 9, 22, 23

Refer to claims 1 and 6 above.

In considering claim 10,

Both Tajima and Milne disclose the feature of replaceable, exchanging, upgrading modules/cards/slots within the system, wherein they would have a surface to be gripped and thus inserted and/or removed.

In considering claims 20 and 27,

The combination of Tajima/Milne discloses the reception of various signals and the splitting/parsing of such signals via multiple contacts/slots within the system.

In considering claim 21,

The combination of Tajima/Milne disclose the reception of signals via an antenna, however they do not disclose the conventional cabling of such system (i.e. coax), wherein the use of such cabling in the reception/processing of audio/video signals is well known thus the examiner takes "OFFICIAL NOTICE" regarding as such, since it's a type of wire/cabling used to process such signals.

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure—see newly cited references on attached form PTO-892.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brian Yenke whose telephone number is (571)272-7359. The examiner work schedule is Monday-Thursday, 0730-1830 hrs.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's Supervisor, John W. Miller, can be reached at (571)272-7353.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(571)-273-8300

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703)305-HELP.

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(FAX) 703-305-7786

(TDD) 703-305-7785

An automated message system is available 7 days a week, 24 hours a day providing informational responses to frequently asked questions and the ability to order certain documents. Customer service representatives are available to answer questions, send materials or connect customers with other offices of the USPTO from 8:30 a.m. - 8:00p.m. EST/EDT, Monday-Friday excluding federal holidays.

For other technical patent information needs, the Patent Assistance Center can be reached through customer service representatives at the above numbers, Monday through Friday (except federal holidays) from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. EST/EDT.

The Patent Electronic Business Center (EBC) allows USPTO customers to retrieve data, check the status of pending actions, and submit information and applications. The tools currently available in the Patent EBC are Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) and the Electronic Filing System (EFS).


PAIR (<http://pair.uspto.gov>) provides customers direct secure access to their own patent application status information, as well as to general patent information publicly available. EFS allows customers to electronically file patent application documents securely via the Internet. EFS is a system for submitting new utility patent applications and pre-grant publication submissions in electronic publication-ready form. EFS includes software to help customers prepare

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submissions in extensible Markup Language (XML) format and to assemble the various parts of the application as an electronic submission package. EFS also allows the submission of Computer Readable Format (CRF) sequence listings for pending biotechnology patent applications, which were filed in paper form.



B.P.Y
20 February 2007



BRIAN P. YENKE
PRIMARY EXAMINER